IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A service providing apparatus for providing a service to a plurality of information processing apparatuses via a network, said service providing apparatus comprising:

(a) storing means for storing a plurality of chat rooms, a list of available content, and content;

(b) receiving means:

(i) for receiving participation requests transmitted from any of [[a]] the plurality of information processing apparatuses to include a corresponding one of the plurality of information processing apparatuses in one of said plurality of chat rooms,

(ii) for receiving content requests transmitted from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms, the content request including a selection from the list of available content, and

(iii) for receiving text messages transmitted from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(c) acquiring means for acquiring the content requested by the content requests;

(d) transmitting means for simultaneously transmitting to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms:

(i) the list of available content stored in said storing means;

[[(i)]] (ii) the content acquired by said acquiring means;

[[(ii)]] (iii) a list of all of the information processing apparatuses

currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said

one of the plurality of chat rooms; [[and]]

[[(iii)]] (iv) said text messages received by said receiving means; and

(v) instructions to each of the service providing apparatus currently

accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the

plurality of chat rooms instructions commanding said one of the plurality of

service providing apparatuses to display both the list of available content and

the name of the content being shared by all of information processing

apparatuses currently receiving transmissions from the transmitting means.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus according to claim

1, wherein:

(a) the content requested by the content requests is music and

(b) the selection is particular music data.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A service providing method for providing a service to

a plurality of information processing apparatuses via a network, said service providing

method comprising:

(a) a storage step of storing a plurality of chat rooms, a list of available content, and

content in a service providing apparatus;

(b) a first reception step of receiving in the service providing apparatus a

participation request to include one of [[a]] the plurality of information processing

apparatuses in one of said plurality of chat rooms;

(c) a second reception step of receiving in the service providing apparatus a content request transmitted from any of the information processing apparatuses belonging to said one of the of the plurality of chat rooms, the content request including a selection from the list of available content;

(d) a third reception step of receiving text messages transmitted from any of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(e) an acquisition step of acquiring in the service providing apparatus the content requested by the content request;

(f) a first communication step of transmitting from the service providing apparatus to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms the list of available content;

[[(f)]] (g) a second communication step of transmitting from the service providing apparatus the content acquired by the acquisition step simultaneously to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

[[(g)]] (h) a transmission step of simultaneously transmitting to each of the information processing apparatuses in said one of the plurality of chat rooms:

(i) the content acquired in said acquisition step,

(ii) a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms, [[and]]

(iii) the text messages to each of the information processing

~~apparatuses in said one of the plurality of chat rooms,~~ and

(iv) instructions to each of the service providing apparatus currently accessing the service providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms instructions commanding said one of the plurality of service providing apparatuses to display both the list of available content and the name of the content being shared by all of information processing apparatuses currently receiving transmissions from the service providing apparatus.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium on which a computer-readable program for providing a service to a plurality of information processing apparatuses accessing a shared server on a network is stored, said computer-readable program comprising:

(a) a storage step of storing in the shared server a plurality of chat rooms, a list of available content, and content;

(b) a first reception step of receiving in [[a]] the shared server a participation request transmitted from any of [[a]] the plurality of information processing apparatuses to include said one of the plurality of information processing apparatuses in one of said plurality of chat rooms;

(c) a second reception step of receiving a content request transmitted from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms, the content request including a selection from the list of available content;

(d) a third reception step of receiving text messages transmitted from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the

plurality of chat rooms;

(e) an acquisition step of acquiring the content requested by the content request;

(f) a first communication step of transmitting from the shared server to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms the list of available content;

[[(f)]] (g) a second communication step of transmitting the content acquired by the acquisition step simultaneously to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

[[(g)]] (h) a transmission step of simultaneously transmitting to each of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms:

(i) the content acquired in said acquisition [[steps]] step,

(ii) a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms, [[and]]

(iii) the text messages to each of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently accessing said one of the plurality of chat rooms, and

(iv) instructions commanding each of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms to display both the list of available content and the name of the content being shared by all of information processing apparatuses currently receiving transmission from the shared server.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus for accessing a service providing apparatus functioning as a shared server, which provides services on a network, together with other information processing apparatuses, said information processing apparatus comprising:

(a) inputting means for inputting access information into a single window of a media player configured to access a shared server to select and participate in one of a plurality of chat rooms;

(b) display control means for controlling display of a list of available content transmitted from the shared server in the single window of the media player;

(c) selecting means for selecting content from the list of available content in the single window of the media player and requesting the shared server to transmit the selected content to [[an]] the information processing apparatus ~~participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms~~ and all of the other information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms by activating a command in the single window of the media player;

(d) receiving means:

(i) for receiving the selected content transmitted from the shared server ~~simultaneously~~ to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(ii) for receiving a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

(iii) for receiving text messages transmitted from the shared server to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the service

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providing apparatus and participating in said one of the plurality of chat

rooms;

(e) displaying means for displaying <u>in the single window of the media player</u> the list

of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and

participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

(f) reproduction controlling means for reproducing<u>:</u>

<u>(i)</u> the received content,

<u>(ii)</u> the list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently

accessing the shared server <u>and</u> participating in said one of the plurality of

chat rooms, and

<u>(iii)</u> the text messages.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to

claim 6, wherein:

(a) the list of available content is a table listing available music data provided from

the service providing apparatus and

(b) the music data corresponds to the selected content.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An information processing method for an information

processing apparatus for accessing a service providing apparatus functioning as a single

shared server, which provides services on a network, together with other information

processing apparatuses, said information processing method comprising:

(a) an inputting step of inputting access information into a single window of a media

player configured to access [[a]] <u>the</u> single shared server to select and participate in one of a

plurality of chat rooms;

(b) a display controlling step of controlling display of a list of available content transmitted from the single shared server in the single window of the media player;

(c) a selecting step of selecting content from the list of available content in the single window of the media player and requesting the single shared server to transmit the selected content to all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the single shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(d) a transmission step of ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting the list of available content and a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the single shared server and belonging to said one of the plurality of chat rooms to each of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(e) a receiving step of receiving the list of available content, content, text messages, and a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms transmitted from the single shared server to all of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms,

(f) a display step of displaying in the single window of the media player the list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the single shared server and currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

(g) a reproduction step of reproducing the content, the text messages, and the list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said on of said plurality of chat rooms in the single window of the media player.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium on which a computer-readable program for causing an information processing apparatus to access a service

providing apparatus functioning as a shared server, which provides services on a network,

together with other information processing apparatuses, said <u>computer-readable</u> program

comprising:

(a) an inputting step of inputting access information into a single window of a media

player configured to access [[a]] <u>the</u> shared server to select and participate in one of a

plurality of chat rooms;

(b) a display controlling step of controlling display of a list of available content

transmitted from the shared server in the single window of the media player;

(c) a selecting step of selecting content from the list of available content in the single

window of the media player and requesting the shared server to transmit the selected content

to [[an]] <u>said</u> information processing apparatus ~~currently participating in said one of the~~

~~plurality of chat rooms~~ and all of the other information processing apparatuses currently

accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms by

activating a command in the single window of the media player;

(d) a transmission step of ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting <u>the list of available content,</u> a

list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and

currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms to each of the information

processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(e) a receiving step of receiving:

<u>(i) the list of available content;</u>

[[(i)]] <u>(ii)</u> the selected content transmitted from the shared server to all

of the information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one

of the plurality of chat rooms;

[[(ii) a]] <u>(iii) the</u> list of all of the information processing apparatuses

currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the

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plurality of chat rooms; and

[[(iii)]] (iv) text messages sent from any of the information processing

apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one

of the plurality of chat rooms;

(f) a display step of displaying the list of all of the information processing

apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and currently participating in said one of

the plurality of chat rooms in the single window of the media player; and

(g) a reproduction step of reproducing the content and the text messages.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The program storage medium according to claim 9,

wherein the selecting step includes activating a command by activating a play button in the

single window of the media player.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to

claim 6, wherein the command is a play button in the single window of the media player.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A service providing apparatus for providing a service

to a plurality of information processing apparatuses, the service providing apparatus

functioning as a shared server on a network, said service providing apparatus comprising:

(a) a storage unit configured to store a plurality of chat rooms, a list of available

content, and content;

(b) a receiving unit:

(i) configured to receive participation requests to include a

corresponding one of [[a]] the plurality of information processing apparatuses

in one of the plurality of chat rooms, the participation requests transmitted

from any of [[a]] the plurality of information processing apparatuses

~~participating in said one of said plurality of chat rooms~~,

(ii) configured to receive content requests transmitted from any of the

information processing apparatuses currently participating in said one of the

[[said]] plurality of chat rooms, the content requests including a selection

from the list of available content; and

(iii) configured to receive text messages transmitted from any of the

information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and

participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(c) an acquisition unit configured to acquire the content requested by the content

requests;

(d) a communication unit configured to transmit the content acquired by said

acquisition unit and the text messages ~~simultaneously~~ to all of the information processing

apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality

of chat rooms; and

(e) a transmitter configured to transmit to each of the information processing

apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality

of chat rooms:

(i) the list of available content;

[[(i)]] (ii) a list of all of the information processing apparatuses

currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the of

chat rooms ~~to each of the information processing apparatuses in said one of~~

~~the plurality of chat rooms~~;

[[(ii)]] (iii) the content acquired by the acquisition unit; and

[[(iii)]] (iv) the text messages received by the receiving unit.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein:

(a) the content is music data and

(b) the selection is particular music data.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus for accessing a service providing apparatus functioning as a shared server, which provides services on a network, together with other information processing apparatuses, said information processing apparatus comprising:

(a) an input unit configured to input access information into a single window of a media player configured to access [[a]] the shared server to select and participate in one of a plurality of chat rooms;

(b) a display control unit configured to control display of a list of available content transmitted from the shared server in the single window of the media player;

(c) a selecting unit configured to select content from the list of available content in the single window of the media player and to request the shared served server to transmit the selected content to [[an]] said information processing apparatus participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms and all of the other information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms by activating a command in the single window of the media player;

(d) a transmitting unit configured to transmit simultaneously the list of available content and a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms to each of the

information processing apparatuses <u>currently accessing the shared server and participating</u> in

said one of the plurality of chat rooms;

(e) a reception unit configured to receive <u>from each of the information processing</u>

<u>apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality</u>

<u>of chat rooms</u>:

(i) content transmitted from the shared server to all of the information

processing apparatuses <u>currently accessing the shared server and</u> participating

in said one of the plurality of chat rooms,

(ii) a list of all of the information processing apparatuses currently

accessing the shared server and participating in said one of the plurality of

chat rooms; and

(iii) text messages

~~to each of the information processing apparatuses participating in said~~

~~one of the plurality of chat rooms~~;

(f) a display <u>unit</u> configured to display the list of all of the information processing

apparatuses currently accessing the shared server and ~~belonging to the same group~~

participating in said one of the plurality of chat rooms; and

(g) a reproduction control unit configured to reproduce the content, the list, and the

text messages.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to

claim 15, wherein:

(a) the list of available content is a table listing available music data provided from

the shared server and

(b) the data is particular music data corresponding to the selected content.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the command is a play button in the single window of the media player.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A service providing apparatus for providing a service to a plurality of information processing apparatuses via a network, said service providing apparatus comprising:

(a) a provision unit configured to provide a plurality of information processing apparatuses with a chat room;

(b) a reception unit configured:

(i) to receive text messages from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently in the chat room and

(ii) to receive a content request transmitted from any of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently in the chat room;

(c) an acquisition unit configured to acquire the requested content in response to reception of [[the]] a content request; and

(d) a transmission unit configured:

(i) to transmit a list of available content to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently in the chat room;

[[(i)]] (ii) to transmit the received text messages to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently in the chat room; and

[[(ii)]] (iii) to transmit, when the reception unit receives the content request, the acquired content simultaneously to all of the plurality of information processing apparatuses currently in the chat room.